

Application No. 09/993,531
Response to Office Action of May 10, 2005

REMARKS

Applicant and his attorney thank the Examiner for the interview on June 22, 2005. All the pending claims were discussed and that the proposed claims were patentable over the art which the Examiner cited and applied, to wit: United States Patent No. 4,526,558 to Durham, United States Patent No. 5,876,295 to Young, and United States Patent No. 6,155,943 to Ledvina et al. With this amendment claims 1-5; 9-13; 15; 17; 20-26; 29-31; and 33-53 are pending. Claims 1, 10, 20, 29, 33, 40, 45, 49, 50 and 51 are the pending independent claims.

All of the claims now describe a sprocket and in some cases an automotive drive or timing system with different root radii or pitch radii in repeating patterns which reduce maximum tensions as claimed. Applicant's attorney explained that the claims have been amended as a result of the last office action which found patentable subject matter in claims 9, 19 and 30. The latter claims are now new claims 9, 19 and 30.

As discussed at the interview, claims 20 and 33 have been further amended over the draft claims used at the interview to remove typographical errors. Claims 9 and 17 have been amended to depend from claims 1 and 10, respectively, instead of being cancelled as indicated in the draft claims used at the interview. Since claims 1 and 10 are patentable, claims 9 and 17 as dependent claims are appropriate.

As discussed at the interview, Applicant submits that claims 33-48 are appropriate and should not be withdrawn from consideration. The Examiner at the interview stated that he thought that he would favorably grant Applicants request to consider and allow these claims.

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Finally Applicant reminded the Examiner that it would be filing an Information Disclosure Statement citing the Gajewski US Patent Publication No. US 2003/0104886 A1 which the Examiner knew about from the last interview.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant submits that pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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